

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01

(ISO)W

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R 040715Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 1941

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL POZNAN

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, XF, EG

SUBJECT: POLISH PRESS CHANGES TUNE ON SADAT, PLAYS DOWN

KISSINGER ROLE

1. SUMMARY: ARTICLES IN CURRENT ISSUES OF TWO MAJOR WEEKLIES REFLECT A REORIENTATION TOWARD SADAT. ALSO A ZYCIE WARSZAWY EDITORIAL ECPRESSES RESERVATIONS ABOUT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CURRENT MIDDLE EAST ACTIVITY, POINTING OUT THAT A REAL SOLUTION CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, CO-CHAIRLED BY THE SOVIET UNION. END SUMMARY.

2. WRITING IN THE MAY 5 ISSUE OF KULTURA, KRZYSTOF WOJNA SUGGESTS THAT EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT IS INCREASINGLY ISOLATED WITHIN THE ARAB WORLD AND IS EXPERIENCING GROWING DOMESTIC OPPOSITION TO HIS AGREEMENT TO DISENGAGE IN SUEZ. WOJNA WRITES

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THAT THE SUCCESS OF ARAB ARMS IN OCTOBER PLUS THE CONVICTION

THAT THE U.S. HAD MOVED AWAY FROM A POLICY OF FULL SUPPORT TO ISRAEL LED SADAT TO ALTER HIS POLICY IN FAVOR OF A PARTIAL SOLUTION AFFECTING EGYPT ALONE OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES. HE THUS SUGGESTS THAT SADAT HAS PURSUED A POLICY OF CONILIA-TION BASED ON EGYPT'S NARROW SELF INTEREST WHICH HAS NOT GONE DOWN WELL EITHER AT HOME OR AMONG THE OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES AND THE PALESTINIANS.

3. THE POLITYKA ARTICLE, BY TADEUSZ PASIERBINSKI IN THE MAY 4 ISSUE, ADDRESSES THE EGYPTIAN DOMESTIC SCENE UNDER THE TITLE "FAROUK WAS NOT SO BAD...." ITS MAIN POINT IS THAT EGYPT, IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF "SELF-ADMIRATION", IS TURNING INWARD, AS SADAT TENDS TO A HOST OF PRESSING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. THE AUTHOR DESCRIBED AN ALLEGED "LIBERALIZATION" AND RETURN TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE COUPLED WITH INCREASED DEALING WITH WESTERN ECONOMIC CIRCLES. ALTHOUGH THE DISCUSSION IS RELATIVELY OBJECTIVE AND DRAWS HEAVILY UPON WESTERN PRESS COMMENTARY, ITS MESSAGE IS CLEAR: THE CHANGES NOW GOING ON IN EGYPT ARE "WELL RECEIVED BY THE BOURGEOIS AND INDUSTRIAL CIRCLES" IN EGYPT AND ABROAD, BUT THE "ACTIVIZATION" OF THE EGYPTIAN "RIGHTISTS" IS UNLIKELY TO IMPROVE PROSPECTS FOR INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT OR FOR STRENGTHENING EGYPT'S POSITION AGAINST ISRAEL.

4. COMMENTING ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CURRENT MIDDLE EAST TRIP, ZYCIE WARSZAWY OBSERVES ON MAY 3 THAT HE WILL NOT ACHIEVE A "MIRACLE" ON THE SYRIAN FRONT. RATHER, A SOLUTION THERE MUST BE BASED ON COORDINATION WITH ALL THE INTERESTED PARTIES. THUS, THE BEST THE SECRETARY MIGHT ARRANGE WOULD BE AN INTERIM SOLUTION PENDING RENEWAL OF NEGOTIATIONS AT GENEVA.

5. COMMENT: THE TWO ARTICLES ON SADAT REPRESENT THE FIRST REFLECTION IN THE PRESS HERE OF A REORIENTATION TOWARD SADAT'S POSITION BASED ON THE RECENT CHANGES IN EGYPTIAN POLICY TOWARD THE USSR. THE EDITORIAL ON THE SECRETARY'S ACTIVITY, IN EFFECT, BELITTLES HIS PERSONAL ROLE, WHILE PLAY-ING UP THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GENEVA FORUM AND US-SOVIET COOPERATION TOWARD A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. THIS IS A SLIGHT DEPARTURE FROM THE INCREDIBLY GOOD PRESS THE SECRETARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS HAD IN POLAND ON HIS MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY.
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